IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	:	
Makoto SASAKI et al.	:	**Attn: BOX PCT**
Serial No. [NEW]	:	**Docket No. 2002-0255A**
Filed February 19, 2002	:	
METHOD FOR PRODUCING CYCLIC POLYETHER COMPOUNDS **[Corresponding to PCT/JP01/01872 Filed March 9, 2001]**	:	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution and to reduce PTO filing fees, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3-5 as follows:

3. **(Amended)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 1, wherein the alkylborane is obtained by the hydroboration of exo-olefin with 9-BBN.

4. **(Amended)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 1, wherein the basic aqueous solution is an aqueous solution of $NaHCO_3$.

5. **(Amended)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 1, wherein 1 to 2 equivalents of cyclic ketene acetal phosphate are added to 1 equivalent of alkylborane.

ATTACHMENT D

Please add the following new claims:

6. **(New)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 2, wherein the alkylborane is obtained by the hydroboration of exo-olefin with 9-BBN.

7. **(New)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 2, wherein the basic aqueous solution is an aqueous solution of $NaHCO_3$.

8. **(New)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 3, wherein the basic aqueous solution is an aqueous solution of $NaHCO_3$.

9. **(New)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 2, wherein 1 to 2 equivalents of cyclic ketene acetal phosphate are added to 1 equivalent of alkylborane.

10. **(New)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 3, wherein 1 to 2 equivalents of cyclic ketene acetal phosphate are added to 1 equivalent of alkylborane.

11. **(New)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 4, wherein 1 to 2 equivalents of cyclic ketene acetal phosphate are added to 1 equivalent of alkylborane.

REMARKS

The above amendment is presented to eliminate multiple dependent claims, thereby reducing PTO filing fees.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is entitled "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Makoto SASAKI et al.

By _____
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February 19, 2002

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 3-5 have been amended as follows:

3. **(Amended)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of claim 1 [or 2], wherein the alkylborane is obtained by the hydroboration of exo-olefin with 9-BBN.

4. **(Amended)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of [claims] claim 1, [2 or 3,] wherein the basic aqueous solution is an aqueous solution of $NaHCO_3$.

5. **(Amended)** The method for producing cyclic polyether compounds of [claims] claim 1, [2, 3 or 4,] wherein 1 to 2 equivalents of cyclic ketene acetal phosphate are added to 1 equivalent of alkylborane.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of	:	
Makoto SASAKI et al.	:	**Attn: BOX PCT**
Serial No. 10/049,823	:	**Docket No. 2002-0255A**
Filed February 19, 2002	:	
METHOD FOR PRODUCING CYCLIC POLYETHER COMPOUNDS **[Corresponding to PCT/JP01/01872 Filed March 9, 2001]**	:	THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE FEE FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In the interest of compact prosecution, please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 12 on page 11 of the specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

Furthermore, the catalyst was changed to $Pd(OAc)_2$/o-(di-t-butylphosphino)biphenyl, which was reported as being effective in proceeding the coupling reaction in high yield at room temperature (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* 1999, 121, 9550-9561); the reaction was carried out in dioxane at room temperature for 24 hours.

REMARKS

The above amendment corrects a minor typographical error in the specification.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current amendment. The attached page is entitled "**Version with Markings to Show Changes Made**".

Favorable action on the merits is now requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Makoto SASAKI et al.

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April 30, 2002

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at line 12 on page 11 of the specification has been rewritten as follows:

Furthermore, the catalyst was changed to $Pd(OAc)_2$/o-(di-t-butylphosphino)biphenyl, which was reported as being effective in proceeding the coupling reaction in high yield at room temperature (*J. Am. Chem. Soc.* [1987, 120, 9722-9723] 1999, 121, 9550-9561); the reaction was carried out in dioxane at room temperature for 24 hours.